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SOAPS AND DETERGENTS

--for Clean Clothes



SOAPS AND LAUNDRY DETERGENTS

A soap or detergent gets the dirt loose from clothes and keeps it in the wash water. The all-purpose, heavy duty kind does a good job of cleaning most clothes.

For delicate fabrics you wash by hand, you may want to use a gentler kind—like those used for washing dishes. The directions on the package will tell you if the soap or detergent is safe for delicate fabrics.

If you have soft water or softened water you may want to use soap. When you put soap in hard water, you get a soap curd. Soap curd can turn your clothes gray if it isn't rinsed out.

Some soap powders you can buy are:

- Duz (red box)
- White King
- Instant Fels Naptha

Many other brands of laundry soap are also sold.

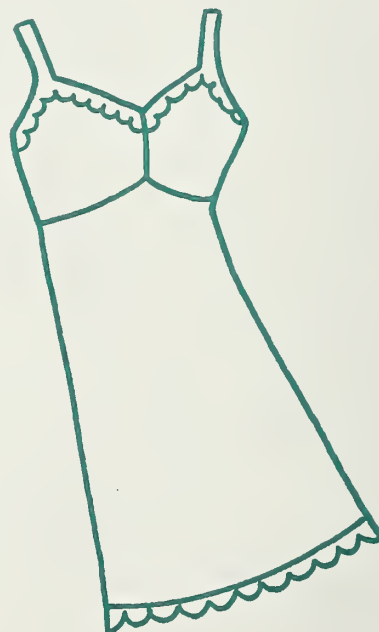
Detergents work well in both soft and hard water.

Detergent powders are the most common kind. They are the least expensive.

Detergent tablets are convenient. They may be expensive.

Liquid detergents dissolve easily in cool water. They are handy for pre-treating stains and grease spots.

Cold water detergents are made especially for washing clothes in cold water. They work in hot water, too.



Some people like lots of suds in the wash water. Others don't care much about suds as long as the clothes get clean. Too many suds may cut down on washing action and are hard to rinse out. They may also damage the machine.

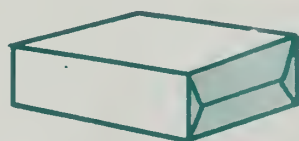
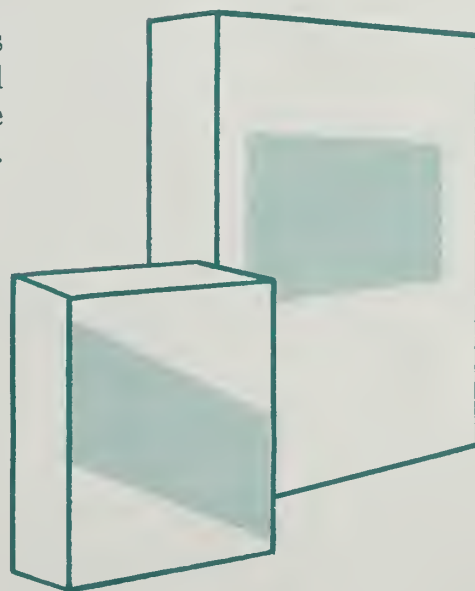
Don't use high-sudsing detergents in a washing machine that opens on the front.

Low-sudsing detergents can be used in either front or top-loading machines.

Some high-sudsing detergent powders are Breeze, Cheer, Duz (blue and yellow box), Fab, Super Suds, and Tide. High-sudsing detergent liquids are Wisk and Dynamo.

Some low-sudsing detergent powders are Ad, All, Bold, Cold Power, and Dash. Tablets include Salvo and Vim. Cold Water All is a liquid.

Most stores carry many other brands in addition to these. Choose the brand you like best—all brands have about the same types of cleaning products in them.





HOW TO USE SOAPS AND DETERGENTS

- Directions on the package tell you how much soap or detergent to use in a normal size washing machine with normally soiled clothes.
- You may need to add more soap or detergent if you have an extra large machine, if your clothes are very dirty, or if the water is very hard.
- Measure soap or detergent carefully. Using too much wastes money and may make so many suds that clothes don't come clean. If you don't use enough, some of the dirt may not come out.
- Detergents lose their cleaning action when the same wash water is used over and over again. Add more detergent if you need it before you put in another load of clothes.

Sometimes white clothes and linens turn gray because you haven't used enough soap or detergent or you haven't thoroughly rinsed out what you did use.

To Get Clothes White Again

1. Wash the clothes again in hot water.
Add enough water softener to make the water feel slippery (about 1 cup).
2. See if the water gets sudsy.
If it does, your clothes weren't rinsed enough. Wash them only with water softener until clothes get white.
If it doesn't, add soap or detergent and repeat washing.

These trade names are used only to help you know what to look for. Many other companies also make and sell soaps and detergents. The U.S. Department of Agriculture does not recommend one kind more than another.